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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,355	10/23/2003	Dan Dwyer	200312262	2726

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

KOVAL, MELISSA J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2851

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/06/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/693,355

Applicant(s)

DWYER ET AL.

Examiner

Melissa J. Koval

Art Unit

2851

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18, 20, 21, 23-29, 31-46 and 48-74 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 13, 15, 17, 18, 28, 38, 41, 44, 45, 48, 52, 53, 55 and 56 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 9-12, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 27, 31-37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 49-51, 54, and 57-74 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7, 8 and 24-26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Withdrawn Claims

Claims 13, 15, 17, 18, 28, 38, 41, 44, 45, 48, 52, 53, 55, and 56 remain withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed March 27, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The rejection of the claims under Wallace '247 set forth in the Office Action of March 27, 2007 is repeated below for applicant's convenience. The Examiner's response to applicant's remarks may be found after the following rejection. Furthermore a new rejection of the claims is also set forth below in view of Postrel '155 B2:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 27, 29, 31-37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 49-51, 54, and 57-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Postrel U.S. Patent 6,939,155, Figures 4, 5, and 6 in view of the embodiment of Figure 7.

Claim 1 sets forth: "A multimedia display device comprising (Figure 4, for example):

a docking station including speakers (column 7, lines 27 through 29) and a media drive (media drive 80);

wherein said docking station is configured to selectively and releasably couple a projector to said docking station (See Figure 5 and column 8, lines 10 through 49, wherein a cell phone or PDA, both having displays must be releasably coupled to function. Other image display devices are described in various suggested embodiment modifications); and

wherein said docking station includes a dedicated indicator that indicates when said projector is successfully coupled to said docking station (See column 5, lines 53 through 67, and column 6, lines 1 through 9.)."

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the various embodiments taught by Postrel to meet the limitations of claim 1 because Postrel suggests that his invention is designed to be modified for a plethora of multi-media devices. The motivation for doing so is given throughout the teaching. Furthermore see column 10, lines 7 through 67.

Claims 2 through 4, and 12 are met by the Figures and teachings referred to in the rejection of claim 1 above.

Claim 5 sets forth: "The multimedia display device of claim 4, wherein said video signal from said docking station is in synch with an audio signal output by said speakers of said docking station." See column 6, lines 50 through 67.

With respect to claim 6, see the SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION and column 7, lines 45 through 67.

With respect to claim 9, see Figure 5, column 7, lines 27 through 46.

Claim 11 is met by a PDA, tv set or gaming machine, for example.

With respect to claim 14, see Figure 1.

Method claims 20, 21, 23, 27, 29, and 31 are met for the reasons already given above because the structure provided meets the steps of the method that are provisional steps because each step describes the provision of a structural element comprising an apparatus within the method.

Claims 32 through 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 49-51, 54, 57, and 58 through 74 are met for the reasons already given. Postrel clearly makes use of a housing of all of the embodiments. Said claims are met for the reasons already set forth in the rejections above. Furthermore the docking station of Postrel is not a general purpose computer. The shape of the speakers is not considered to be a patentable distinction because the results achieved are not unexpected.

With respect to claim 62, see column 10, lines 46 through 67.

For additional details of the device of Postrel see THE ABSTRACT and THE SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION as set forth in two segments.

Claims 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Postrel U.S. Patent 6,939,155 as applied to claim 1-6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 23, 27, 29, 31, 32-37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 49-51, 54, 57, and 58-74 above, and further in view of Barnes et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0195418 A1.

Postrel '155 does not specifically show or describe the presence of a handle for his docking station.

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With respect to claim 10, the examiner does not recognize the patentable distinction of the handle for the claimed docking station, because handles for docking stations are well known in the art as shown by Barnes '418 A1. See the Figures showing a variety of handles with docking stations.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the docking station shown by Postrel in view of Barnes, depending on the electronic device being docked. The motivation for making such a modification would be ease of use and portability.

* Please note that dependent claim 48, also drawn to handles, was previously withdrawn.

Claims 1-6, 9-12, 14, 16, 20, 21, 23, 27-29, 31-37, 39, 40, 42-43, 46, 49-51, 54 and 57-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallace et al. U.S. Patent 6,070,247.

Claim 1 sets forth: "A multimedia display device comprising:

a docking station including speakers and a media drive (Cart 56 houses all elements of conferencing system 10 including docking station 14 and projector 28 has at least one speaker. In this device the docking station is further docked.);

wherein said docking station is configured to selectively and releasably couple a projector to said docking station; and wherein said docking station includes a dedicated indicator that indicates when said projector is successfully coupled to said docking station."

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The various embodiments of conferencing system 10 are designed to couple together such that the user is visually aware if the devices are not properly coupled and operational by electrical connection devices. See the teaching in columns 3, 4 and 6, for example.

Essentially the device of claims 1-6, 9-12, 14, 16, 20, 21, 23, 27-29, 31-37, 39, 40, 42-43, 46, 49-51, 54 and 57-74 are met by Wallace et al. '247. A variety of modifications are discussed in columns 7 and 8.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to slightly modify the system of Wallace et al. to meet any of the claims set forth above in view of Wallace's teaching. Motivation for one having ordinary skill in the art to do so is set forth in the teaching as pointed out above and furthermore in the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION and SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION of '247.

Applicant's arguments are repetitive and do not offer insight into why the claimed invention is not obvious over the prior art of record. The applicant's arguments do not overcome the rejection of claim 1.

Applicant's arguments do not comply with 37 CFR 1.111(c) because they do not clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. Further, they do not show how the amendments avoid such references or objections.

Beginning with the bottom of page 14 and the top of page 15, applicant states:

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“The Wallace reference does not teach or suggest a docking station that allows a projector to be selectively and releasably coupled to it.” The examiner respectfully disagrees and will point out in further detail where in the reference support for the examiner's rejection can be found. Applicant gives an opinion that the claims of the present application differ from Wallace but does not detail the differences in his arguments nor does applicant give further evidence why the claims are not obvious over Wallace.

The examiner directs applicant to column 2, lines 56 and 57 wherein the following is stated: “The interconnection of each component within the system is self-explanatory”. For example, it is well-known in the art that commercially available printers or notebooks, such as printer 26 or notebook 30, are designed to be releasably coupled from other system components. Claim 2 of the '247 patent further suggests that the notebook is releasably coupled for portability. See Figures 8 and 15, for example. The drawings suggest releasable and selective coupling of at least several components.

With respect to the final paragraph of page 15 of applicant's remarks, the examiner directs applicant to column 6, lines 13 through 43, column 7, lines 42 through 67 and column 8, lines 1 through 17, wherein further evidence of the teaching's ability to meet each and every limitation of the rejected claims is found.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7, 8, and 24 through 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not show each and every limitation of claim 7 in combination and particularly "an infrared (I/R) sensor configured to receive control commands from a remote control."

Claim 8 depends from claim 7.

Claim 24 would be allowable for the same reasons.

Claims 25 and 26 depend from claim 24 or an intervening claim.

**** The examiner interprets the SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION of Wallace to teach away from the use of an infrared sensor. See column 1, lines 52 through 55.*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melissa J. Koval whose telephone number is (571) 272-2121. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

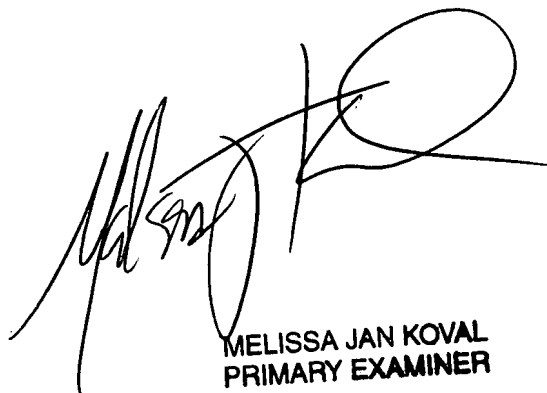
Conclusion

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diane Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2399. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Melissa Jan Koval
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2851
MJK



MELISSA JAN KOVAL
PRIMARY EXAMINER